

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Attorney Docket No. 062844
Application No. 10/587,895

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8 and 10-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 8 and 14-17 are herein amended. Claims 18-22 are newly added. No new matter has been presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 14 and 16 recite allowable subject matter. Claims 14 and 16 have been amended into independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Withdrawal of the objection to claims 14 and 16 is requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 7, 8, 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hartson** (WO 99/22857) in view of **Anderson** (US 2004/0028804); and claims 3-6 and 10-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hartson** in view of **Anderson** and further in view of **Akiyama**, *The Polymer Incarcerated Method for the Preparation of Highly Active Heterogeneous Palladium Catalysts*, J. Am. Chem. Soc., vol. 125, No. 12, pp. 3412-13 (2003).

Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to recite that the group provided on the inner wall of the channel is an amino group and the amino group is covalent bonded with said group of said polymer or said spacer. Support for this amendment is in paragraph 22 of the amended specification submitted in the Preliminary Amendment dated July 27, 2006.

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When the inner wall of said channel is an amino group, and said amino group is covalent bonded with said group of said polymer surface or said spacer, the PT catalyst can be firmly supported on the inner wall 4c of a micro-channel, it does not dissociate from the inner wall 4c of a micro-channel, and it can be used repeatedly. (*See* specification as amended, paragraph 22, lines 18-20.)

Applicants respectfully submit that Hartson in view of Anderson does not teach or suggest:

said group provided on the inner wall of said channel is an amino group,
and

said amino group is covalent bonded with said group of said polymer
surface or said spacer

as recited in amended claims 1 and 8.

The Office Action acknowledges that Hartson does not disclose a catalyst incorporated in a polymer. (Office Action, page 4.) The Office Action cites Anderson for teaching this feature. Anderson discloses a base 2, substrate surface 4, and buffer layer 8 for polymeric microarrays in paragraphs 21-22. However, Anderson does not disclose the above noted feature added to claims 1 and 8, and this feature would not have been obvious over the cited references.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 3-8 and 10-22 are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-8, 10-13, 15 and 17 is hereby solicited.

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In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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